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November 12, 1959

Tos

Office of Security Department of State

Froms

John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject:

PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ, et al. INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

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IN THIS DOCUMENT. JM 9-15-97

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Reference is made to reports appearing in the press concerning a sixteen-page brochure dealing with the leaflet-dropping raid over Havana, Cuba, on October 21, 1959. It was implied in this brochure that a United Statesbased plane had machine gunned and bombed Havana. The brochure was entitled, "Cuba Denounces Before the World," and was published by the Public Relations Department, Ministry of State, Republic of Cuba.

On November 10, 1959, Mariano Faget, Miami, Florida, former head of the Bureau for the Repression of Communist Activities in Cuba, furnished our Miami Office with a copy of this brochure. Faget advised that he had received this item from another source. According to Faget's source, the brochure is being shipped into the United States by Alonso Hidalgo Barrios, former Cuban Consul General, Miami, who is now the Cuban Government supervisor of Cubana Airlines.

Faget also advised that he had learned that between 10,000 to 15,000 copies of this brochure had been shipped into Miami via Cubana Airlines destined to the Miami Office of Cubana Airlines located at 100 Biscayne Boulevard for dissemination in the United States, presumably by the Cuban Consulate and Cubana Athlines. Eaget learned from his source that the brochure was written by Antonio de la Osa under the supervision of Raul Roa, Minister of States 31 11 50

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Date: 11/10/59

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well as info re it from a friend who is employed by Cubana Airlines in Miami, and who formerly worked under FAGET when he was the Miami Manager of Cubana Airlines. FAGET stated, according to his friend that this leaflet is being shipped into the US by ALONSOCHIDALGO BARRIOS, former Cuban Consul General in Miami, who is now the Cuban Florida Government Supervisor of Cubana Airlines.

One copy of this leaflet is being transmitted to the Bureau.

The 11/10/59, issue of the "Miami Herald" contained an article entitled, "Cuban Booklet 'Malicious, Offensive' to US," bearing a Washington, DC dateline. This article reflected that the US on Monday accused Cuba of publishing an offensive brochure full of inaccurate, malicious, and leading reports about the alleged bombing of Havana last month. The article disclosed that Assistant Secretary of State ROY R. RUBUTTOM, handed Cuban Ambassador ERNESTO DIHIGO a bluntly worded note complaining about continued Cuban charges that US-based planes bombed and strafed Cuban citizens. Mr. RUBUTTOM also showed DIHIGO a copy of the brochure which the State Department charged was "Evidently designed further to create an atmosphere of hostility in US-Cuban relations."

This article disclosed that the brochure, printed in English, had arrived in the mail over the weekend addressed to Secretary of State CHRISTIAN A. HERTER, and bore the seal of the Cuban Ministry of State.

The article stated that the new American note again denied categorically any idea that the US approved the flight of a B25 which dropped leaflets on Havana on the night of 10/21/59. The article also stated "The US note said intensive investigation showed the bomb bay of the B25 was fitted with a permanent luggage rack which made it impossible for the plane to drop bombs. It also said the plane's automatic weapons positions had been permanently sealed so that no cannon or machine gun could have been mounted on the plane.

"The note said furthermore that available evidence, including eye witness reports, indicated that many, if not all, of the Cubans injured October 21, 1959, received their wounds from Cuban gunfire."

MM is retaining an Autostat copy of this brochure.

ADDENDUM:

On the late afternoon of 11/10/59, Col. FAGET advised that between ten thousand to fifteen thousand copies of this brochure were shipped into Miami via Cubana Airlines destined to the office of Cubana Airlines at 100/Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, for dissemination in the US, presumably by the Cuban Consulate, and Cubana Airlines. He learned from his source that this leaflet was written by ANTONIO DE LAGOSA under the supervision of RAUL ROA, Minister of State.